

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 131540Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3749

INFO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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EO 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IV

SUBJ: GOIC TO REVIEW ITS RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

1. IN MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ARSENE USHER ASSOUAN ON JUNE 10 AMBASSADOR RAISED QUESTION OF REPORTED REVIEW BY PARTIE DEMOCRATIQUE DE COTE D'IVOIRE (SINGLY PARTY) OF IVORY COAST'S RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. THIS IS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY ONE OF FIVE COMMISSIONS ESTABLISHED BY PDCI TO PREPARE POPICS FOR NOVEMBER PARTY CONGRESS SESSION PRIOR TO GENERAL SLECTIONS.

2. GOIC CURRENTLY HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ONLY WITH RUMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA (NONRESIDENT) BROKE RELATIONS WITH USSR IN 1969, AND IS TALKING OF RELATIONS SOON WITH POLAND. IN ASIA, GOIC HAS DIP RELATIONS WITH ROK AND ROC, NOT NK NOR PRC, AND GOIC HAD RELATIONS WITH SVN AND LON NOL (AT 'CHARGE' LEVEL).

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3. AMBASSADOR ASKED MINISTER WHETHER THIS REVIEW HAD ANY PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE IN THE LIGHT OF THE CHANGED CONDITIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. USHER SAID THAT IN EARLY YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE, IVORY COAST HAD TAKEN POSITION THAT IT COULD NOT AFFORD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MOST COMMUNIST COUNTRIES UNTIL ITS INTERNAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WERE SECURE ENOUGH THAT COMMUNIST INFILTRATION WOULD NOT TREATEN THE POLITICAL STABILITY OF THE COUNTRY. NOW, 15 YEARS AFTER INDEPENDENCE, THE PARTY CONGRESS WOULD BE REVIEWING THIS QUESTION TO SEE WHETHER IVORY COAST IS INDEED STRONG ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND POSSIBLE COMMUNIST INFILTRATION.

4. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, HE SAID THAT THERE WAS NO INTENTION OF DISCUSSING RELATIONS WITH PARTICULAR COUNTRIES BUT RATHER RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AS A WHOLE.
SMITH

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